



2017 Annual Water Quality Report

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. If you have any questions about Sandpoint's water quality or system feel free to contact David Pafundi at 208-263-3440.

The City of Sandpoint met and exceeded all standards for drinking water quality in 2017.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Sandpoint produces potable water at two separate facilities: The Sand Creek Plant treats water from Little Sand Creek, and the Lake Plant treats water from Lake Pend Oreille. The Sand Creek plant is a conventional plant that uses coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, and filtration to physically remove contaminants. The water is then disinfected with chlorine to protect against pathogenic microorganisms. The Lake Plant is a membrane filtration plant, after coagulation and flocculation, the water at the Lake Plant is filtered through microfiltration membranes, it is then disinfected with chlorine. In 2017, 51.9% of production was from the Sand Creek Plant, and the remaining 48.1% was produced at the Lake Plant.

Source Water Assessment studies have been conducted by the IDEQ to establish potential sources of contamination in the watersheds of both plants. Copies of reports describing the results of this study are available for review at the office of the Public Works Department. The studies can also be found online at <http://www2.deq.idaho.gov/water/swaOnline/Search>. Enter 1090121 for the PWS number and press "Search."

Your Participation is Welcome

To become involved in decisions affecting your drinking water, attend and comment at Sandpoint City Council meetings. The Council meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 PM in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 1123 Lake Street.

The City is currently looking for interested individuals to assist in updating the City of Sandpoint's Source Water Protection Plan. One meeting of approximately two hours, and some email communication is what the time commitment would likely be. If you would like to help, please contact Jeff Cowley at jcowley@sandpointidaho.gov.



What the EPA Would Like You to Know

The sources of drinking water, (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife;
- (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;
- (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems;
- (E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised people, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants, can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The EPA's Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Testing Results

Lake Treatment Plant

Detected Compound	Units	MCLG	MCL	Maximum Detected Level	Range Detected	Sample Date	Major Sources in Drinking Water	How Did We Do?
Turbidity	NTU	NA	TT	0.028	0.013 to 0.028	2017	Soil Runoff	✓
Combined Radium 226 & 228	pCi/L	0	5	0.8	0.8	02/15/16	Erosion of Natural Deposits	✓
Gross Alpha Radiation	pCi/L	0	15	0.7	0.7	02/15/16	Erosion of Natural Deposits	✓

The treatment technique requirement for turbidity is that 95% of all samples in a month be under 0.3 NTU, and no sample be over 1.0 NTU. 100% of all the samples at the Lake Plant were under 0.3 NTU in 2017.

Sand Creek Treatment Plant

Detected Compound	Units	MCLG	MCL	Maximum Detected Level	Range Detected	Sample Date	Major Sources in Drinking Water	How Did We Do?
Turbidity	NTU	NA	TT	0.56	0.02 to 0.56	2017	Soil Runoff	✓
Combined Radium 226 & 228	pCi/L	0	5	0.1	0.1	02/15/16	Erosion of Natural Deposits	✓
Gross Alpha Radiation	pCi/L	0	15	1.2	1.2	02/15/16	Erosion of Natural Deposits	✓

The treatment technique requirement for turbidity is that 95% of all samples in a month be under 0.3 NTU, and no sample be over 1.0 NTU. In February 98.8% of samples were under 0.3 NTU. 100% of all samples in the other eleven months were under 0.3 NTU. No samples were over 1.0 NTU for 2017.

Definitions

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

TT: Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Units of Measurement: **ppm** = parts per million **ppb** = parts per billion
pCi/L = picocuries per liter **NTU** = Nephelometric Turbidity Units

**All required testing
surpassed Safe Drinking
Water standards.**

Distribution System Results

Detected Compound	Units	MCLG	MCL	Maximum Detected Level	Range Detected	Sample Date	Major Sources in Drinking Water	How Did We Do?
Chlorine	ppm	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	1.53	0.35 to 1.53	2017	Added as a Drinking Water Disinfectant	✓
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's)	ppb	NA	80	34.0	21.4 to 34.0	06/28/17	By-product of Drinking Water Chlorination	✓
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	NA	60	36.2	24.5 to 36.2	06/28/17	By-product of Drinking Water Chlorination	✓

Lead And Copper Results

Detected Compound	Units	MCLG	90th Percentile AL	90 th Percentile Result	Homes Exceeding Action Level	Sample Date	Major Sources in Drinking Water	How Did We Do?
Lead	ppb	0	15	6.0	0 of 20	2016	Corrosion of Household Plumbing	✓
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.149	0 of 20	2016	Corrosion of Household Plumbing	✓

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Sandpoint is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4971) or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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AL: Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.



Units of Measurement: **ppm** = parts per million **ppb** = parts per billion

Additional Monitoring Results (Not EPA Required)

Detected Compound	Units	MCLG	MCL	Maximum Detected Level	Range Detected	Sample Date	Sources in Drinking Water
Alkalinity - Lake Plant	ppm	NA	None	79	71 to 79	2017	Naturally Occurring Substance
Sodium - Lake Plant	ppm	NA	None	6	6	08/15/17	Naturally Occurring Substance
Alkalinity - Sand Creek Plant	ppm	NA	None	14	11 to 14	2017	Naturally Occurring Substance
Sodium - Sand Creek Plant	ppm	NA	None	4	4	08/15/17	Naturally Occurring Substance

